

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 12, and 20 have been amended. Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Applicant notes that the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83 as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. 37 CFR 1.83 sets forth the requirements for the content of a drawing when provided. 37 CFR 1.81(a) makes it clear that an Applicant must furnish a drawing where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented. Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's specification is sufficiently clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that the source may be of the form of a register, a FIFO or a RAM. Figure 1 and Figure 4 were drawn to show that the source is a register. Applicant respectfully submits that the specification as presented is sufficiently clear so that those of ordinary skill understand that Applicant seeks to patent at least three variations with respect to the source, namely a register, a FIFO and RAM. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no drawing of a source having a FIFO or a source having a RAM is required to understand the subject matter sought to be patented.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, and 20 were objected to because of various informalities. Applicant has amended each of the claims to correct the noted informalities. Applicant has additionally amended claim 6 to correct an informality as well.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Claim 12 has been amended to remove the objectionable term, rendering the rejection moot.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 2 and 7 were merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 2 and 7 have been amended to include all the limitations of the base claim, and as such are believed to be in allowable form.

Applicant also notes with appreciation that claim 12 would be allowable if amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection. Applicant notes that Claim 12 has been amended, and is believed to be in allowable form.

Finally, Applicant notes that claims 13-20 were merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. These claims are now in allowable form.

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cross (US Patent No. 5,602,878 hereinafter Cross). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 as amended is directed to a method for transferring multiple bits of data across asynchronous clock domains. The method includes detecting a change in a status bit of a data word being transferred from a source in a source clock domain to a destination register in a destination clock domain, sampling the detected change in reference to a change window and selecting a stable input for each bistable circuit if the change window occurs too close to an edge of a delayed version of the destination clock.

Cross is directed to a method for delivering stable data across an asynchronous interface. Cross shows a control signal is synchronized to a destination clock (*see* control synchronizer chain 306 of Fig. 3 and text at col. 6, lines 52-56). The signal output from control synchronizer chain 306 is asserted when there is a change of state of the contents of the source register and deasserted, conversely, when there is no change of state of the contents of the source register (*see* col. 6, lines. 56-65). Cross does not teach or suggest comparing a status bit change window to a delayed version of a destination clock. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be in allowable form. By their dependency, claims 3-6 and 8-11 are similarly believed to be in allowable form.

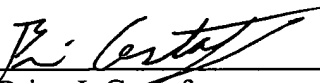
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Applicant respectfully requests that all pending claims be allowed. A check is enclosed in the amount of 100 dollars for excess claim fees. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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